

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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5 A cluster computer system including multiple network accessible computers
that are each coupled to a network. The network accessible computers implement
host computer programs which permits the network accessible computers to operate
as host computers for client computers also connected to the network, such that
input devices of the client computers can be used to generate inputs to the host
computers, and such that image information generated by the host computers can be
viewed by the client computers. The system also includes a cluster administration
10 computer coupled to the multiple network accessible computers to monitor the
operation of the network accessible computers. A method for providing access to
host computers by client computers over a computer network includes receiving a
request for a host computer coupled to a computer network from a client computer
coupled to the computer network, wherein the relationship of the host computer to
15 the client computer is to be such that after the client computer becomes associated
with a host computer, an input device of the client computer can be used to generate
inputs to the host computer, and such that image information generated by the host
computer can be viewed by the client computer. Next, a suitable host computer for
the client computer is determined, and the client computer is informed of the
20 network address of the suitable host computer. Nodes of the network can be non-
terrestrial.

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